

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 12-14, 17, 18, and 21-37 are pending in the present application. Claims 2-4, 7, 8, 12-14, 17, 18, 21-27, 29-33 and 35 have been amended to better describe the present invention. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9-11, 15, 16, 19 and 20 have been canceled. Claims 36 and 37 are new.

1. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-4, 7, 8, 11, 17, 18, 21, 22, 30, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gysing et al. (US 2004/00699069).

Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection. However, Applicants have elected to amend the claims 1, 3-4, 7, 8, 11, 17, 18, 21, 22, 30, and 31 in accordance with Examiner's finding of allowable subject matter. Therefore the rejection is now moot.

2. The Examiner has objected to claims 2, 12-14, 23-29 and 32-35 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended the claims to rewrite the allowable subject matter in independent form. All dependent claims depend from one of the allowable independent claims. Applicants submit that pending claims 2-4, 7, 8, 12-14, 17, 18, and 21-35 are therefore allowable.

3. Newly added claims 36 and 37 variously depend on allowable independent claims 29 or 35, and therefore are allowable for at least the reasons provided hereinbefore. The addition of the two claims does not increase the number of pending claims.

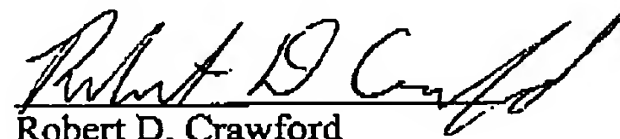
4. Applicants claims small entity status for the present application.

5. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and allowed. If the Examiner is not prepared to allow all the claims in view of the discussion herein, Applicants hereby respectfully request a phone interview with the Examiner at the Examiner's earliest convenient. Applicants' counsel can be reached at 203-626-3502 (direct dial) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or by E-mail at rcrawford@cidra.com.

6. A petition for a three-month extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 is submitted herewith. Please charge the fees of \$510.00 for the three (3) month extension of time and \$600.00 for the additional independent claims to Deposit Account No. 50-0260 Order No. CC-0681. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to this deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ROTHMAN ET AL.



Robert D. Crawford
Registration No. 38,119

CiDRA Corporation
50 Barnes Park North
Wallingford, CT 06492
Telephone: (203) 626-3502